

DOCKS.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO.
GENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at Whampoa, afford every facility for Repairing, Sparring, and Refitting. Vessels of all sizes: the Company are also prepared to execute all kinds of work with prompt despatch.

The Dock is built of Granite, and is 550 feet over all, with 320 feet in the blocks, and a breadth of 80 feet at the Entrance. It can be used as either one or two docks, being fitted with two Galleys. It is also furnished with Steam Pumps.

Depth of Water at Spring Tides, 19 to 17 feet 6 inches. At low tide, 15 to 13 feet 6 inches.

Attached to the Docks in a Pair of Scares, fitted with 20 Captains and 3 Winches, and Capable of lifting 50 tons, with a Depth of Water under the Scares, alongside the Jetty, enough for any Vessels at all times of Tides.

Also, One Wood Dock, capable of taking a Vessel of 240 feet on the keel, on a Draught of 13 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 9 feet 6 inches at Neap Tides. The other, Vessel of 120 feet 6 inches at Spring Tides, and 7 feet 6 inches at Neap Tides.

The Engine House under the Superintendence of European Engineers and Boiler-makers contains Lathes of all sizes, and a large lathe for repairing ships; one Self-acting Planing Machine, Scurving Machine, with Taps and Dies complete, large and small Drilling Machine, powerful Steam Hammer (10 tons), &c., &c.

The Blacksmith Shop contains a large Blast-furnace, and 12 Scaffolds, fitted with Steam Boilers.

The Iron Foundry contains a Furnace, capable of casting 5 tons, and Brass Furnace for casting half a ton.

Attached to the premises is a Circular Sawmill driven by Steam, capable of cutting logs or planks of any length.

The whole under the Superintendence of experienced European Foremen.

All Tools and Materials connected with Machinery kept always on hand.

Copper and Yellow Metal Sheathing, Felt, Pitch Tar, Oakum, Paints, Oils, &c., supplied at market rates.

A powerful Steam Tug, of 100 Horse power is always in readiness to tow Vessels to and from the Docks, or to Sea.

For Dock Charges, or for further particulars, apply to Mr. D. LARKIN, Hongkong, or to Mr. N. MITCHELL, Whampoa.

If Hongkong, 4th January, 1864.

DANES ISLAND DOCKS.
WHAMPOA.
GOV. & CO.

THIS DOCK, built of Granite, has been in thorough working order for nearly two years. It is 335 feet long, with a breadth inside the coping Stone of 78 feet, and a depth of 22 feet. At Spring Tides, the Depth of water on the sill of the Dock is 19 to 17 feet, and at Neap Tides, from 15 to 13 feet 6 inches.

Attached to the Dock are ENGINEERS WORKSHOPS, with LATHES of all sizes; PLANING, PUNCHED, and SLEIGHT MACHINES of the best description; a Large FOUNDRY, SAW-MILLS with both Vertical and Circular Saws; a powerful STEAM HAMMER; and every Requisite and Appliance for the Repair of Vessels, both of Wood and Iron.

For particulars regarding Docking and other Charges, apply at first point to Mr. JOHN LAMONT, Hongkong, April 10, 1861.

HONGKONG ICE ASSOCIATION.
1864-1865.

THE Subscribers List will be at the Charter-Office of the Hongkong Ice Association, for one month from date.

A single share represents a permanent consumption of the Ice of one day, or say 100 pounds. Two Shares 200, and so on.

The maximum number of shares to be taken in one name is Twenty, which will enable the holder to take as much or as little as he may require at subscription price.

Deposit—\$50 per Share.
In Hongkong, 10th March, 1864.

ENTERTAINMENTS AT HOME.
MR. J. R. BLAKE, whose Entertainments at the National Melodist, have been given throughout the Australian Colonies, in the City of London, in Madras, and throughout Bengal, the North-West Provinces, and the Punjab; and by the Press and people, and the public, have been given in these respective countries; and which have been honoured by the Patronage and repeated attendance of the respective Governors, Lieutenants-Governors, and other rulers, with the Society in every place, receiving at Simla the special patronage of His Excellency the late Earl of Dalhousie, K.C.B., Viceroy and Governor-General of India;—has the honour to intimate that he will shortly visit Hongkong, and give a short Series of Entertainments.

Further particulars, written, at the Office of the Society, 27th February, 1864.

NOTICE.
WITH reference to the notice published in this paper on the 8th January, 1864, in relation to subsequent issues, and separate hand-bills issued on the 10th inst., describing the numbers of Bank Notes for \$1,000, reported to have been lost, I hereby notice that the sum of \$800 of the following numbers have been found:

Six Notes of "Chartered Mercantile Bank" for \$100 each—
Nos. 1687, 1269, 3530, 3280, 1182, 2011.
Two Notes of "Oriental Bank" for \$50 each—
Nos. 5308, 5899.

One Note of "Chartered Bank of India Australia & China" for \$100—
No. 470.

And the Notes for \$200, described below are still not found—
One Note of "Chartered Mercantile Bank" for \$100 each—
Nos. 1952, 5850.

One Note of "Oriental Bank" for \$50 each—
Nos. 1952, 5850.

Care of
Messrs. JAMES & CO. 1864.

NETHERLANDS CONSULATE.
At Canton, 8th February, 1864.

THE undersigned has the honour to publish, that the usual Government Sales of Coffee at Padang, will take place in the months of March, June, September, and December, of current year.

Particulars may be obtained from the Netherlands Consulate at Canton and Hongkong.

J. A. AMOED, Viceroy HON'Y. N. N. His Netherlands Majesty's Consul for China.

WING KEE.
HONGKONG.
Endicott's Bazaar, No. 15.
Has for Sale Casks of all kinds.

Captains and Agents of Steamers respectively requested to call and examine the Stock of Casks at the ab. Hong before making their purchases elsewhere.

12th Hongkong, 14th August, 1863.

In the Estate of the late Captain

DEPARTURE OF STEAMERS.

The "Pantagon," leaves for Shanghai, to-day, at Noon. Mails close at 11 A.M.

The "Thimble," leaves for Singapore, Penang, and Calcutta, to-morrow at 2 P.M. Mails close at 1 P.M.

DEATHS.
At the Seamen's Hospital, on 21st March, Wm. ROBINSON, Seaman ex British Bark Briton.

At Hongkong, on 20th March, JAS. infant daughter of Mr. ALLEN, Ross, Shipwright, aged 11 months.

\$350 REWARD.
Is offered for information that will lead to the arrest of JAMES WHITE, the murderer of SAMUEL WEBSTER, who broke jail this morning.

He is about 5 feet 5 or 6 in. in height, thin, dark, although stoutly built. He has red hair, light eyes, white cyphus, and no beard.

U. S. Consul General.
Shanghai, 1st February, 1864.

Bound Volumes of the "CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT 1863."

Price—\$12.
Apply at the Office of this paper.

CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY FOR CHINA, JAPAN AND THE PHILIPPINES FOR 1864.

Price (of both parts)—\$3.
Apply at the Office of this paper.

DAILY PRESS OFFICE.
Wynnam Street, Opposite St. Paul's College.

A Daily Paper.
Printed every Morning except on Sundays and Public Holidays.

Price, 30 cents per Month—payable quarterly in advance. Extra Copies, 5 cents each.

Terms for Advertising—
[The whole range of the week from Monday to Saturday, in the first column, 100 words for 100 lines, 200 words for 200 lines, and so on, according to the number of lines.]

THE DAILY PRESS.
HONGKONG, 22nd MARCH, 1864.

THE Band of the 90th Regiment, will play the following airs on the Parade ground, this evening, Tuesday.

PROGRAMME.
1.—Overture, "The Merry Widow."
2.—Quadrille, "Gnomes."
3.—Air, "Don Giovanni."
4.—Waltz, "Bianca."
5.—March, "The Merry Widow."
6.—Gigue, "Malakoff."

We are informed that the new Church at Sheung Wan, Canton, will be opened for Divine Service, &c., on Easter Sunday the 27th Instant.

Our readers should be aware that the annual expenditure of this colony has been voted in the shape of an Ordinance, which has been passed by the Legislative Council, and approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

In fact, it has been passed by the Legislative Council, and approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and is now in force.

The Ordinance is a wise one, and if carried out in its integrity would form a salutary check upon the extravagance of the Government.

It involves the necessity of bringing in the estimates in the form of an Ordinance, with all the requisite details minutely stated, and first reading—published at least ten days before it is brought in for the second reading, whereas it has been hitherto the custom to bring it in for the first reading, and pass it without delay.

It is therefore pretty evident that any money expended in excess of the amount appropriated by the Ordinance, is either misappropriated, or illegally disbursed. A question may arise, whether money expended after the passing of an Ordinance by the Legislative Council, but prior to its approval by the Secretary of State, is valid.

It is clear that the intention of the British Legislature, in framing the precautionary measure we have indicated, would be totally frustrated if money were expended prior to the approval of the Secretary of State, and the Ordinance which had been passed by the Legislative Council, and approved by the Secretary of State, is now in force.

We have good reason to believe, that no Ordinance whatever can be legally enforced here until such approval shall have been received—save and except in cases of emergency, when the Governor in his executive capacity is authorized to issue Ordinances.

The law fact of his being provided with such discretionary powers, coupled with the circumstance that all Ordinances absolutely require the approval of the Secretary of State, implies the inevitable inference that such approval is requisite to give an Ordinance the force of law; more especially when it is considered that the Secretary of State does not approve of Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council of a colony, as a matter of course, but on the contrary sometimes disapproves of and rejects them.

Thus it comes to pass that the Ordinance for the Estimates of this colony always passed about six months prior to the commencement of the year to which they are applicable. This gives time for the approval or disapproval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies—enabling that functionary to approve of the estimates in so far as he may see fit, and thus put the break on what might be an extravagant or unnecessary expenditure.

Besides, we once heard the late Mr. Tudor of the Legislative Council, declare in his place at that assembly, that as Chief Magistrate, he would not give effect to any Ordinance that had not received the sanction of the Secretary of State. The Chief Justice (Hulse) and the Acting Attorney General (Green) were present.

A little discussion took place on the dictum, which appeared most unpalatable to the Governor (Bowring) but as we understood it, Mr. Davies' views were borne out.

Our readers may conclude, as the salaries of the heads of departments form part of the annual expenditure, that therefore they must be included in this estimate; Ordinance, and is voted year by year, as also the Pensions, is not so however.

Governor Robinson had a sort of perpetual Ordinance passed, No. 13 of 1860, which provided for the salaries under what he called the Civil list appropriation.

The Pensions were in like manner regulated by Ord. No. 10 of 1862—so that the annual vote is entirely exclusive of the salaries of all officials except those of a temporary or subordinate character.

We desire to be thus explicit for two reasons: first to enlighten our readers on the subject of local finance, and second to enable them to comprehend the remarks we make on irregularity on what we need a flagrant irregularity—to say the least of it.

On the 3rd July 1862, an Ordinance was passed, (No. 11 of 1862) enacting that this salary for the services of the year 1863, a sum not exceeding—\$450,376 00.

When this Ordinance was passed, the Governor (Robinson) stated, that the Civil list was fixed at—\$135,024 00.

And the expenditure of pensions at—9,000 00.

Total \$469,000 00.

The Ordinance having been duly approved of, the sum of \$469,000 stood legally voted for the expenditure of 1863.

In the Hongkong Gazette of the 6th of last month, the returns of the Revenue and Expenditure for 1863 were given in detail. The Expenditure was stated to have been, including civil list, pensions and—\$548,608 00.

Or less than had been voted and approved by—\$135,024 00.

Now in last Saturday's Gazette appears a draft Ordinance which had been laid before the Legislative Council, and has not yet been passed on account of the expenditure of 1863 than—\$150,776 00.

beyond the \$469,000 which have already been voted as far back as July 1862, making it appear that the expenditure for the year 1863, as published in the Gazette on the 6th of last month was in error by the sum of—\$203,101 57.

That is to say, that such statement under the expenditure applied at \$57,339 92 less than the sum voted, instead of \$157,776 00.

It is true that an Ordinance cannot be discussed on its first reading, but then when the Governor brings in a bill of this kind, a full explanation is always given upon that occasion.

The Criminal Sessions were postponed that the Judge and Attorney General might attend the Court, which only lasted a few minutes.

The second reading was taken place on the 20th inst., when the draft Ordinance will be run through owing to the lack of public spirit on the part of the non-official members of Council, and to official misapprehension of the true state of the case.

These men, who possess the courage and rectitude as well as to require a proper explanation, and to vote according to the way his conscience would indicate. Having passed the Council, the approval of the Secretary of State will be obtained by these means.

But even supposing that all is bona fide and straight forward and that ignorance, carelessness, or misapprehension is the cause of the lamentable irregularity, still it is not absurd that an appropriation Ordinance for 1863 should have been passed in the middle of 1862, and that an application for the year 1863 should have been made in the middle of 1863.

On the 15th of December, 1863, should be applied for near the end of the first quarter of 1864? It is clear, that the government of this colony expended \$131,770 00 during 1863 which they excluded from their expenditure, and have not yet paid more than was voted, instead of \$135,024 00.

As represented in the Gazette of the 6th ulto, in the statement of annual returns. One of these two mistakes must be taken into consideration, and the advance of the payment of acknowledged liabilities as well as *supra* voted in the other case, *supra* voted must have been practised in its worst shape.

It is not clear that the money was expended during 1863, or not. If it were not, the case amounts to one of embezzlement which is out of the question; but if it was so expended, we submit that one of the suggestions we have stated must apply; and if such is the case, it is a question for the Court to decide.

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Civil List, Surveyor General—\$1,800 00.
1st clerk—2,400 00.
2nd Do—1,440 00.

Already Voted, Salaries Allow.
Ancestral and contingencies, 3,600 00.
Ancestral and buildings—135,500 00.
Roads Streets and Bridges—65,000 00.

Supplemental Vote now applied for.
Surveyor General—1,123 62.
Works and Buildings—55,311 82.
Roads, Streets, and Bridges—20,683 82.

Total—\$236,988 70.

The sum appears incredible—the amount would be frightful if it represented Greenbacks—but for such a quantity of good hard dollars to be expended on this place in one year, under proper management and ordinary care, is nearly impossible.

The return in the Gazette of the 6th ulto, of last year's revenue and expenditure were prepared by Mr. Mercer prior to Governor Robinson's arrival. They were published officially with the Auditor General's sanction, and we should suppose are final and binding, rendering this supplemental application quite out of order.

We suppose that on Governor Robinson's arrival he disapproved of some of Mr. Mercer's returns, (or perhaps Mr. Mercer had led him into error by the use of the word "supplemental" to throw the whole cost of them into last year's expenditure, so that the present year's entry may appear in a favorable light under his superintending care.)

There is one item in this supplemental application which places Governor Robinson's conduct in a very favorable light. It is this.

Min. Exclusive of establishment—\$621,088.

The sum was doubtless expended, by the Governor, in the discharge of his duties, and how is it possible that a sum that was never voted could have been legally spent in 1863, for the purpose of a mint, the Ordinance for the establishment whereof only passed on the 30th February 1864, and is not complete to the 1st of March 1864.

Were Judge Adams here, these tricks would not be played, and the public would have some satisfaction. We have little doubt that Governor Robinson will pass this supplemental appropriation through the Council, and that in his despatch to Downing Street, he will make all appear correct and regular.

This invariable darkness of that sink of iniquity, Ningpo, has hitherto baffled us. A letter from our correspondents' column will throw a little light on the subject. As for the merits of the case on which the letter treats, we have no more to say than that we are glad to see the light.

We have merely to point attention to the state of affairs whereon the letter treats, and we hope shortly to give a few authentic details of the case, which we found stated in the M. M. Review, of the 15th of February.

The case was stated in the M. M. Review, of the 15th of February, and the bar forced out. The widow is about five feet from the ground. Afterwards I found that an attempt was made to cut the wire of the bars over the door, also through another bar.

I afterwards saw Mr. Soar, who accompanied me to the Station where the case was being tried, and he told me that the case was being tried, and he told me that the case was being tried, and he told me that the case was being tried.

